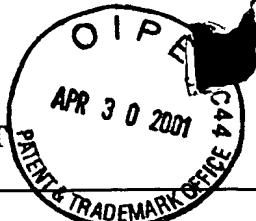


PATENT



Attorney's Docket No. YAMAHS.778A

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY - USA PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **VEHICLE SUSPENSION SYSTEM**; the specification of which was filed on January 11, 2001 as Application Serial No. 09/759,294;

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56;

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

### PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Priority  
Claimed

No.: **2000-002597** Country: **Japan** Date Filed: **01/11/00**

**YES**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I hereby appoint the registrants of Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP, 620 Newport Center Drive, Sixteenth Floor, Newport Beach, California 92660, Telephone (949) 760-0404, Customer No. 20,995, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (if this application is assigned, I acknowledge that the appointed individuals do not represent me, and that instead they represent the assignee).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole inventor: **Kouji Sakai**

Inventor's signature Kouji Sakai

Date Mar. 12. 2001

Residence: **2500 Shingai, Iwata, Shizuoka 438-8501, JAPAN**

Citizenship: **Japan**

Post Office Address: **Same as above**

Send Correspondence To:

**KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP**  
**Customer No. 20,995**

## ASSIGNMENT

**COPY**

WHEREAS, the undersigned, hereinafter referred to as Assignor, has invented new and useful improvements in a **VEHICLE SUSPENSION SYSTEM** for which Assignor has made application for United States Letters Patent; 09/759,294 filed January 11, 2001 and

WHEREAS, **YAMAHA HATSUDOKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA**, doing business as Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd., a corporation of Japan, with its principal office at 2500 Shingai, Iwata-shi, Shizuoka-ken 438-8501, JAPAN, referred to as Assignee, desires to acquire the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said improvements and the said Application:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) to me in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I, the said inventor, do hereby acknowledge that I have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest throughout the world in, to and under the said improvements, and the said application and all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all rights of priority under International Conventions and applications for Letters Patent which may hereafter be filed for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States and all extensions, renewals and reissues thereof; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and any Official of any country or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said improvements to the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND I HEREBY covenant and agree that I will communicate to the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to me respecting said improvements, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid the said ASSIGNEE, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said improvements in all countries.

**COPY**Kouji Sakai

Kouji Sakai

Date: Mar. 12. 2001**COPY**Residence: **2500 Shingai****Iwata-shi, Shizuoka-ken 438-8501, Japan**Citizen: **Japan**Witness: Masanori ToriiDate: March 12, 2001